



Office of the City Manager · 555 Santa Clara Street · Vallejo · CA · 94590 · 707.648.4576

July 11, 2019

Honorable Attorney General Xavier Becerra
California Department of Justice
1300 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Honorable Attorney General Becerra,

Over the past several months, several media outlets and opinion writers have published stories regarding the City of Vallejo police and community relations. The City Council during their annual goal and priority setting process identified the desire to improve the relationship between the community and our police department. We have established an action plan that portrays a process including our request to have the U.S. Department of Justice assist us in facilitating a community engagement initiative. Our current police chief is retiring June 30, 2019 and we recently held a community meeting to seek citizen input into the desired qualifications and characteristics that we collectively desire in our next Chief. We have undertaken several other actions including an assessment of practices and policies to insure our officers are trained in the most current de-escalation and implicit bias trainings available.

We would greatly appreciate an opportunity to meet with you or your appropriate representative(s) of your office to explain our initiatives and seek your input regarding our plan. In 2011, Vallejo exited bankruptcy, which led to difficult stress since 2008. Prior to bankruptcy, our police department had 163 sworn police officers. That number was reduced to 77 and has slowly increased to 122. In addition to our community engagement an authorized strength of initiative and our best practices assessment we will need to seek additional revenues to increase our police department's capacity in order to realize significant improvement in our community policing initiative. We would also like to discuss any financial support that you are aware of that may be available to our community.



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We realize you and your office have very busy schedules. We would appreciate any time you can afford us and we will make ourselves available as your schedule allows.

Respectfully,

A blue ink signature of Bob Sampayan, written in a cursive style.

Vallejo Mayor Bob Sampayan

A blue ink signature of Greg Nyhoff, written in a cursive style.

Vallejo City Manager Greg Nyhoff